GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:359
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Insurgent Groups
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports that several small residual insurgent groups are operating from the safe havens across the border and are engaged in kidnapping for ransom, which had almost doubled in Assam and Meghalaya and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether in Garo Hill district of Meghalaya, some new splinter groups are kidnapping people for ransom or looting businessmen at gunpoint and if so, the action taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has expressed its resolve not to engage in talks with criminal elements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)
(a) & (b):- As per report some Indian insurgent groups have setup their hideouts/temporary camps in the neighbouring countries i.e. Bangladesh and Myanmar which are being used for undertaking subversive and criminal activities in the country including kidnapping for ransom, extortion etc. The Government has been pursuing the matter with the Governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar at various levels including Home Secretary level talks between the two countries. The latter have assured that they will not allow anti-India activities from their soil.
In Meghalaya, a number of splinter Garo groups are active who are indulging in criminal activities including extortion/abduction activities and vying for area domination. The State Governments of Assam and Meghalaya have been
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advised to strengthen the security in the vulnerable areas. As per report, due to sustained pressure by the Security Forces incidents of abductions forransom by criminal groups in Meghalaya have declined in the current year in comparison to previous year 2014.
(c) & (d): The Government is willing to talk to any group which abjures violence. However, talks cannot be held with the criminal groups which have been indulging in mindless violence, killing innocent people including women and children ruthlessly.
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